

Waite Park Elementary PTA

Meeting Minutes - April 11th, 2024

★Principal's Update: We are waiting on contracts to be settled. We have finalized the budget on our end. Now we are winding down the last 9 weeks of school. Symphonia came today. Tornado drill today. 5th grade ceremony (June 13th) and track and field day (June 14th, last day of school) are being planned. Kindergarten registration is May 16th, will send out postcards to new families, have an information session and welcome our new families.

★Community Ed Update: We are mid-session. Last day for GEMS/GISE is May 16th and there will be an exhibition.

★Minneapolis Parks Update:

- INDOOR PLAYGROUP Parent/toddler Play time at Waite Park WAITE PARK FRIDAYS 6:00-7:30PM. There is a bouncy house in the gym.
- WAITE PARK PUZZLE EXCHANGE DAY BRING NEW OR LIGHTLY USED PUZZLES TO EXCHANGE. KID AND ADULT PUZZLES Tuesday April 23rd 6-8pm

★PTA Update:

- Positions for 2024-2025 PTA board: Tyler (president) is interested in moving to the treasurer position. Tam (treasurer) is stepping down from the PTA board. Carmen (secretary) is stepping down from the PTA board. Laura (Grants co-chair) and CasiAnna (Fundraising Co-chair) are interested in being co-secretaries. Anika (co-VP) and Katy (co-VP) are interested in taking over the President role. Bridget (Grants Co-chair) is interested in continuing with Grants and taking on the role of co-VP with Princess Cramer. David Harris is interested in being Grants Committee Co-chair. Elections will take place at the next meeting in May.
- We will have openings for Communication Chair, Membership Committee Chair, and Fundraising Committee Chair.

Here are position descriptions:

- **Communications Committee Chair:**
 - Promote/communicate PTA related activities and news
 - Manage all public communication including the PTA website and Facebook page
 - Moderate content and comments on social media to keep a positive tone
 - Support event/program leads in communicating about volunteer openings and other event needs
 - Act as the coordinator of classroom representatives
- **Membership Committee Chair:**
 - Establish membership goals
 - Design the membership and outreach promotion
 - Update/prepare membership materials for distribution at the beginning of the new school year for events and meetings
 - Report on membership statistics at first and mid-year PTA meetings
- **Fundraising Committee Chair**
 - Works with a committee to plan and organize fundraising activities
 - Focuses on raising the amount of funds needed to meet the unit's budget
 - Manages Give to the Max campaign goals and objectives
 - Manages donation solicitation letters and acknowledgements to donors

- School Store: We are making a school gear store. Ms. Nicole and Ms. L have been designing some shirts, hats and other gear for purchase. Ordering will go directly through the company and be mailed directly to you. It's great to spread the word in the community about our amazing school!
- Family Service Day: Earth Day Clean-up: Saturday 4/20 at 10am in Waite Park versus Monday April 22nd (as a school.) Or do two events, and have kids walk the neighborhood and pick up trash. Have the kids wear Waite Park gear!

★Treasurers Update: We received some additional donations from the Glow Run through corporate matching donations (\$491.) We paid Boosterthon their portion of the Glow Run (\$9,251.)

★Grants Committee Update: \$3,100 left in the budget. We hope to improve the grants process next year for teachers through Google Forms. Here are the grants approved for the month:

- Ms. Erin from the media center is having an author talk/book signing for K/1 and bought a set of their books.
- Safety Patrol is having a field trip to Nickelodeon Universe on May 15th (they need drivers for 34 students, email us if you can help! waiteparkpta1@gmail.com.)
- Ms. Hubert is doing a ceiling tile project and nature based ceramics project.
- Sensory room remodel is completed.
- All school Bingo

★Traffic Safety Committee Update:

- We are in the early info gathering stages. A new member (Jessica Schoner) joined the committee who is a PHD in transportation, engineering and bicycle safety. She is helping drafting a memo to Public Works pressing our case.
- We are discussing providing additional signage/markings to provide additional visibility at 34th and Johnson as well as 34th Avenue in front of the school.
- We have discussed potentially having parent volunteers out at the 34th and Johnson, but they would need to be background checked like classroom volunteers.
- Please don't turn right onto 34th Avenue in front of the school by the busses during drop off and pick up!

★Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6th-10th

We will provide treats for all staff every day of the week. We need plenty of volunteers to gather materials, prep materials, deliver/set-up and clean up at the end of the day. Please email waiteparkpta1@gmail.com if you can help!

★Spring Carnival Committee Update: We found a new puppet company to perform Z Puppets Rosenschnoz. They have a Cherokee language performance for \$750.

- ★ We had a parent representative from NEMS Middle School. NEMS band is being cut. They had \$900,000 shortage and had to cut an entire department as well as Ethnic Studies. NEMS parents are trying to fundraise for a band program. They are determining what is legally possible/feasible. Waite Park PTA would like to be supportive as possible.

- ★ Next PTA meeting will be in person on May 9th. Final meeting for the school year will be on June 13th.